

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/666,777
AMENDMENT B

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 3968.091

REMARKS

Review and reconsideration of the Office Action dated April 20, 2005, is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 8-12 and 14-18 stand allowed.

Office Action

The paragraphing of the Examiner is adopted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 4,252,986, US Patent No. 4,623,750, or SU 1,082,780. According to the Examiner, the fact that the process of Claim 8 may have been distinguished over the prior art does not distinguish Claim 19 therefrom. Claim 19 does not require the specifics of Claim 8.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,252,986, U.S. Patent No. 4,623,750, and SU 1,082,780 for reasons of record and reasons given above.

Response

In response, Applicants amend Claim 19 to incorporate the limitations of Claim 8. Accordingly, Claim 19 is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

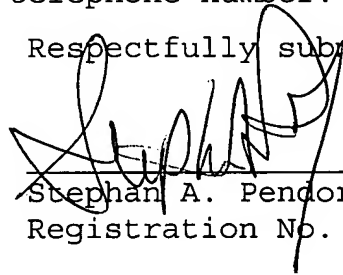
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In a telephone conference with Examiner Shippen on July 20, 2005, it was provisionally confirmed that such amendment would place the application in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested. Should further issues remain prior to allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephan A. Pendorf
Registration No. 32,665

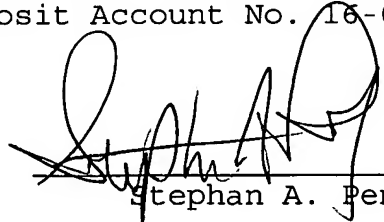
PENDORF & CUTLIFF
5111 Memorial Highway
Tampa, Florida 33634-7356
(813) 886-6085

Date: July 20, 2005

CERTIFICATION OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing AMENDMENT B for U.S. Application No.: 10/666,777 filed September 18, 2003, was deposited in first class U.S. mail, with sufficient postage, addressed: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 20, 2005.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.



Stephan A. Pendorf